



Fig. 1. Time-height mapping of mixing ratio  $r$  (g/kg) from the soundings launched during EPIC 2001 (upper panel), Stratus 2003 (middle panel) and Stratus 2004 (lower panel). The cloud boundaries and the LCL are also displayed. The cloud top (red) is retrieved from the MMCR for EPIC and Stratus 2003, while for Stratus 2004, it is approximated by the inversion base height, derived from the wind-profiler reflectivity. The cloud base (black) is derived from the ceilometer and the LCL (blue) from surface met data. All estimates are 10-min averaged or linearly interpolated from a higher resolution, with the exception of the hourly averaged inversion base height. The periods when the vessels were stationed at the WHOI buoy (20°S, 85°W) are bounded by black vertical lines, while white segments indicate missing or bad sounding values.